Homosexual Tie Noted in 10 Slayings

3/3/72

By Alfred E. Lewis
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Ten of the 38 homicides committed in the city last year in which no arrests have been made were "homosexually motived or related, metropolitan police said yesterday as they again asked for information that might help solve one of the slayings.

Police said that last year 15 of 233 homicides were homosexually linked, compared to an average of seven in previous years.

"For protection, these (homosexual) people ought to know of the increased danger from persons who may be preying on this type of victim," said Capt. Robert Boyd.

Boyd and Deputy Chief Mahlon E. Pitts made a special appeal for information concerning the killing of James Edward Williams, 55, sometime last April 11-13.

Williams, body was found April 13 on the living room floor of his apartment at 1126 11th St. NW. He had died of multiple stab wounds. Police said disarranged furniture and spattered blood indicated Williams fought with his attacker. He also was choked.

Police are looking for a photographer named "Bill," who took a picture of Williams and the man detectives suspect killed him while trying to rob his apartment. The photograph was taken April 11 in Franklin Park, 14th and K Streets NW. It was the last time Williams was seen alive, police said.

Later that day, police said, the suspect returned to the park wearing a brown car coat. It was identified as belonging to Williams and was missing from his apartment when his body was found.

Prior to the murder, police said, Bill had been a frequent visitor to the park. He lived in the vicinity of 16th and R Street NW.

Police said they do not believe all of the unsolved homosexually linked murders were committed by the same person.

Police also are seeking help in solving an unrelated homicide committed just a block away on Jan. 28, 1971.

The victim was a pensioner, Idella A. Williams, 73, of 1233 11th St. NW. She died after being severely beaten on the head and face with a blunt instrument. Her body was found on the bedroom floor and her empty handbag was found on the bathroom floor.

Anyone with information related to either of these two crimes should call Lt. Joseph O'Brien at 626-2727.